

WAYWARD SISTERS THEATRE

PRESENTS

Blood of My Mother's
By Karissa Murrell Myers



**WAYWARD SISTERS
THEATRE ENSEMBLE**

PRESENTS

BLOOD OF MY MOTHER'S

**WRITTEN BY
KARISSA MURRELL MYERS**

DIRECTED BY CHRISTINA CASANO

CAST & CREW

MARINA CAROLYN HU BRADBURY
LILLIAN MONALISA AMIDAR
RICHARD DAVID STOBBE
DEANNA LIZZIE NGUYEN
DOMINIC SEBASTIEN GARBE
GRANDMA ORTALEZA JANICE HASEGAWA
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DEVON HAYAKAWA

*ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS FUTURE PRODUCTIONS IN
2021 AND TO OUR ENSEMBLE CAST MEMBERS*

MEET THE TEAM



KARISSA MURRELL MYERS (Playwright) (she/her/hers) is a hapa Filipino American theatre artist originally from Boise, Idaho and is currently based in Chicago, where she works professionally as an actor, playwright, casting director, and producer. She has a MFA in Performance from University of Hawaii at Manoa, a BA in Theatre Arts from Boise State University, and is a graduate of The School at Steppenwolf. Her autobiographical play **FRAGMENTED** was filmed and released through Our Perspective: Asian American Plays in November 2020. Her most recent play, **HOW DO WE NAVIGATE SPACE?**, was filmed and released through Strawdog Theatre Company, where she is the current Casting Director and ensemble member. Proud member of SAG-AFTRA. Represented by Gray Talent Group. www.kmurrellmyers.com



CHRISTINA CASANO (Director) (she/her/hers) is a freelance theatre artist and the Artistic Director of The Plagiarists. Based in Chicago, her training includes a BA in Theatre from Miami University and the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey's Summer Professional Training Program. She was selected for Victory Gardens Theater's Directors Inclusion Initiative for the 2019-2020 season, and served as the Assistant Director for *How To Defend Yourself*. Selected directing credits include: *Poison* (The Plagiarists), *Deep Shadows* (audio drama series, Eclectic Full Contact Theatre), *Anne Frank*, *Sleepy Hollow* (GreatWorks), *The Living Newspaper Festival* (Jackalope Theatre), *Fighting Words Festival* (Babes With Blades). Other favorite projects include *Some Like It Red* and *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, etc. (The Plagiarists), *Bury Me* (Dandelion Theatre), *The Light Fantastic* (Jackalope Theatre). You can find out more at her website: www.cmrcasano.com.



DEVON HAYAKAWA (Assistant Director) (any pronouns) is a theatre artist based in Chicago. Devon is passionate about new works, especially ones featuring AAPI stories. Favorite credits include: *The Bushwick Girls* (Director, *Wayward Sisters*), *To Fix a Dinosaur* (Director, Chicago Dramatists), *9066* (Director & Playwright, Chicago Dramatists), and *Baked! The Musical* (Actor, CMTF). More at devonhayakawa.com.



CAROLYN HU BRADBURY (Marina) (she/her/hers) is an actor and writer based in Chicago. She has a BA in English and Theater from UC Berkeley and an MFA in Acting from The Theatre School at Depaul University. She has performed with Jackalope Theatre, Victory Gardens, Goodman Theatre, Artists at Play, and Kunoichi Productions. She spends all her free time crocheting stuffed animals and training dogs.



MONALISA AMIDAR (Lilian) (she/her/hers) Originally from Manila, Philippines and raised in Mesquite, Texas, Monalisa is a Dallas-based actor, director, and choreographer whose art is in service of women and children of immigrant and refugee families. Founder of Diwa Theater and DFW Asian American Creatives, Monalisa holds an M.A. in Visual & Performing Arts from the University of Texas at Dallas and a B.A. in Theatre from Pepperdine University. She is currently training in intimacy direction and coordination focused on creating anti-racist, culturally affirming & responsive, safer spaces for BIPOC/People of the Global Majority artists. Her creative project in progress focuses on uplifting Filipino and Filipino American nurses and healthcare workers.



DAVID STOBBE (Richard) (he/him/his) is an actor/writer, singer, and gardner. In this time David has been volunteering with Healthy Hood Chicago, and reading. When not giving architecture tours with Wendella, he's eating, riding his bike, and writing with friends. Recent Credits include Middle Passage (Lifeline Theater), Bury Me (Dandelion Theater), Auntie Clause (Nashville Chidren's Theater), The Full Monty (Theo Ubique), and Forsythian Dweller's Club (Minneapolis Fringe Festival). David is Represented by Big Mouth Talent.



LIZZIE NGUYEN (Deanna) (she/her/hers) is an actor and writer from Indiana and is currently a senior BFA acting major at Ball State University. Selected theatre credits include: The Giant in The Giantmaker, Beatrix in This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing, and Usher/God in BSU's upcoming production of Everybody. She is so excited to be a part of this cast and workshop this amazing play!



SEBASTIEN GARBE (Dominic) (he/him/his) is a new Chicago based actor who graduated from Boston University mid-pandemic. In school, he earned a BFA in Acting, a BA in Political Science, a dance minor, and a musical theatre concentration. Hailing from the Bay Area, he grew up trilingual in a multicultural household, speaking Chinese, French, and English. He loves being a part of new works, telling stories of the Asian American diaspora, making people laugh, and dancing hip hop. To learn more about Sebastien, you can visit his website: www.sebastiengarbe.com or follow him on his Instagram at @sebbiegee



JANICE HASEGAWA (Grandma Ortaleza) (she/her/hers) began acting just for fun after retiring from careers in Social Work and Computer Programming. She has appeared in locally-filmed independent films and TV shows such as Chicago PD and Chicago Fire, and hopes to complete the triad one day with an appearance in Chicago Med. She is honored to be participating in this reading of "Blood of My Mother's."

SPECIAL THANKS

THE PRODUCERS WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE ACTORS, CREW AND THE AUDIENCE FOR TAKING THE TIME TO MAKE THIS MOMENT GREAT!

SPOTLIGHT: WOMEN IN BUSINESS



&Rise is a nonprofit organization that empowers women to be the ultimate versions of themselves no matter what adversities they have faced. We offer personal and professional development workshops, weekly support groups for female trauma survivors via zoom, and free counseling for women who reside in Illinois. Our vision is to put millions of single moms through college and put millions of trauma survivors through free counseling so they can be that ultimate version of themselves.



Anneliese's Cookies, is a small up-and-coming cookie business. They make gourmet butter-based cookies, dipped in chocolate and then nuts, coconut, or sprinkles. Their artisan cookies also come in gluten-free, sugar-free, and vegan varieties, and make excellent gifts, party favors and beautiful dessert displays. For more information check out: anneliesecookies.com



Once upon a time, comedian Jen Chan was drafted into a beauty pageant, and in the midst of preparing for this absurdly random competition, Banato was created - A banana-sorbet treat with no dairy or added sugars. Since founding Banato in 2019, Jen's mission has been to challenge popular perceptions of dessert and increase the accessibility of healthy food in Chicago. Check Banato out on Instagram @go.banato



A bottle shop + experience. We drink well, have fun, and love everyone. Also ask about their BU club. It's pretty rad! You can follow us on social media: @bottles_up_chicago (Instagram) and @BottlesUpChicago (Facebook)



Handmade, 100% nickel-free earrings to brighten every day.
Shop CleverGirlClay on Etsy!



DYKES WITH DRILLS

Dykes With Drills is a nonprofit that empowers people with the tools to build. By hosting skill-building workshops, retreats, volunteer events and meet-ups, we cultivate opportunities for individuals to connect with each other and to use power tools. In everything we do, we foster safe, inclusive, non-judgmental spaces for learning and teaching. If you've ever thought you couldn't make something because of what you've been told, we are here to help you.



Hip Circle Empowerment Center's Mission is to empower women through dance, fitness, and community. ALL women need to believe they are strong, beautiful, and worthy of attention.



Too many believe waxing is everything but an enjoyable experience. Monica began thinking of her services as a waxing therapy, contrary to the popular belief. She has been in this field for over eight years and realized very quickly that her clients aren't just that, they are also friends. It's human nature to build bonds with those that you see on a regular basis. This world is a crazy place and it's nice to take the time to be pampered by someone you can trust. She began working as a licensed Esthetician after graduating in 2011 from University of Aesthetics located in Wicker Park. Her expertise includes Women Brazilian & Expectant Mother Brazilian Wax. She is passionate about building a relationship with each individual to establish trust and personal attention to their needs.



Growing up in Southeast Asia created our deep love of delicious food. Both our mother and grandmother were entrepreneurs, with successful ventures in food distribution for specialty markets and embassies in Laos. These gifts surrounded our family with unique influences of Southeast Asian and French cuisines, paving the way for our love story with Vietnamese food. Inspired by our history and excitement for the present, Saigon Sisters emerged in 2009, sharing our culinary delights and phenomenal flavors with the world. We have 3 locations: 2 in the West Loop/Fulton market areas and 1 in Northwestern Memorial Hospital). You can book online for dine-in, carry-out, delivery and catering at www.saigonsisters.com

In late August, we will collaborate with Chef Kathy Hardy from The Taste of the Philippines located at the Chicago French Market on a Southeast Asian Kamayan Feast where the delicious flavors of Vietnam, Thailand and Philippines come together in one package.

More details can be found about the event at www.saigonsisters.com



Sleeping Willow Decor is a small business that sells handcrafted macramé pieces that give your space that creative boost you've been craving! I believe that the space where you live, what you fill in that space is directed related to how you live. If I want to live a peaceful and creative life I am going to fill my house with items that bring me peace and spark creativity. Boost your space and tell a new story with fun and personal pieces of art individually handcrafted with tranquility and love!



The Colette Collection is a locally owned women's clothing boutique, owned by Lauren Colette Rubbelke. They cater to all ages and focus on trendy & affordable items! Check them out on Instagram @the_colette_collection



Tubby's Taste is an online vegan cookie company. Each Tubby's Taste cookie boasts bold flavors and stories inspired by our Jamaican-American roots! Gift a cookie subscription or a single box of cookies. Check us out at www.tubbystaste.com

Our Mission

The mission of Wayward Sisters Theatre Ensemble is to authentically represent the lives of the underrepresented, while striving to make theatre more accessible to our community.



@WAYWARDSISTERSTHEATRE



@WAYWARDSISTERS4



@WAYWARDSISTERSTHEATREENSEMBLE